

Course Outline: Fall 2018

Intro to Biblical Hebrew 1040a/5040a

Location: W112

Days & Time: Tues 2:30-4:20 / Fri 11:30-1:20

Instructor: Dr. N. Meyer

Contact info: nmeyer5@uwo.ca

Office: A225 ext c/o 289; hours: Fri 10:20-11:20



Huron
THEOLOGY

Course Description

An introduction to the writing system and grammar of Biblical Hebrew for those with no previous knowledge of the language.

According to an ancient Jewish legend, the Creator spoke the world into existence using the language of Hebrew. With this course, students will begin to learn this sacred language of the Jewish religion, the language in which the majority of the Bible (both Jewish and Christian) was written and which was revived in the twentieth century in the form of Modern Hebrew. To encourage the daily discipline of study and practice that is necessary for language learning, the grading scheme of this course is weighted more evenly throughout the term, with regular homework assignments and quizzes carrying the bulk of the grade. Your commitment is necessary to achieve the goals of this course, which are to develop skills both for reading fluency and basic oral competence with biblical Hebrew; to develop a vocabulary of frequently occurring words in the Hebrew Bible; and to encounter biblical Hebrew as part of a living culture.

Course Outcomes

For the best possible outcome, this course should be regarded as the first of two 3-unit courses, upon the successful completion of which a student should be able to:

- pronounce with confidence the text of the Hebrew Bible
- read basic Biblical Hebrew prose
- articulate the value of reading the text in its original language

Course Materials

Required

Cook, John A., and Robert D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014.

Student resources available at: <http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/beginning-biblical-hebrew/342630/esources> (click “student” tab)

Quizlet flashcards are available within the app under BakerAcademic

Assignments & Method of Evaluation of Assignments

Assignments and Participation 27%

The completion of regular assignments (usually bi-weekly) *as well as participation in class* will count for 27% of your grade. Assignments for lessons covered must be submitted *before* the next class begins.

Quizzes 48%

Seven quizzes, valued at 8 percent, will be written in class; the lowest score will be dropped. These will test your comprehension of the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary covered in class and in the textbook. Missed quizzes will *not* be accommodated in the case of non-documented absences.

Final Exam 25%

The final exam will be comprehensive and comparable in format to quizzes.

ScheduleWeek 1, Sept 7

Fri: Intro & Lesson 1 The Consonants

Week 2, Sept 11 & 14

Tues: Lessons 2 & 3 The Vowels | שְׁוָא (*Shəva*)

Fri: Lesson 4 שְׁוָא (*Dagesh*)

Week 3, Sept 18 & 21

Tues: **Quiz 1** | Lesson 5 Subject Pronouns:

Singular

Fri: Lessons 6 & 7 Copular Clauses | Nouns:

Singular

Week 4, Sept 25 & 28

Tues: Lesson 8 The Article הַ and the Interrogative

הַ

Fri: **Quiz 2** | Lesson 9 לְ of Possession: Singular

Reading 1 ("The Home")

Week 5, Oct 2 & 5

Tues: Lesson 10 & 11 Nouns: Plural and Dual |

Subject Pronouns: Plural

Fri: Lesson 12 שֵׁ and אֵין

Week 6, Oct 9 & 12

No Class – Fall Study Break

Week 7, Oct 16 & 19

Tues: Lesson 13 Conjunction וְ and Prepositions בְּ,

לְ, וְ, and מִן

Fri: **Quiz 3** | Lesson 14 שְׁאֵלוֹת (Questions)

Reading 2 (*Genesis 3A*)

Week 8

Tues: Lessons 15 & 16 Verbs: A Preview | קָל

Perfect Conjugation: Singular

Fri: Lesson 17 הֶ of Possession: Plural

Week 9, Oct 30 & Nov 2

Tues: Review

Fri: **Quiz 4** | Lesson 18 Word Order

Reading 3 (*Genesis 22A*)

Week 10, Nov 6 & 9

Tues: Lesson 19 קָל Perfect Conjugation: Plural

Fri: Lesson 20 מְיֻחָּוֹת (Bound Nouns)

Week 11, Nov 13 & 16

Tues: **Quiz 5** | Lesson 21 The Irreal Use of the Perfect Conjugation

Fri: Lesson 22 Attached Pronouns: Singular

Reading 4 (*Genesis 37A*)

Week 12, Nov 20 & 23

Tues: Lessons 23 & 27 קָל Imperfect Conjugation: Singular & Plural

Fri: **Quiz 6** | Lessons 24 & 25 The Infinitive | The Adverbial Infinitive

Week 13, Nov 27 & 30

Tues: Lessons 26 & 28 Objects | קָל Imperfect Conjugation of הִיאַ

Reading 5 (*Genesis 3B*)

Fri: **Quiz 7** | Review

Week 14, Dec 4 & 7

Tues: Review

Fri: **Final Exam**

Additional Statements:

1. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices during Tests and Exams

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited, to laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

2. Statement on Academic Offences:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg113.html>.

3. Plagiarism-detecting Software/Computer Marking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

4. Support Services:

- UWO Registrar's Office: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
- Huron's Faculty of Theology, Office of the Dean: http://www.huronuc.on.ca/faculty_of_theology/info_for_current_students
- Faculty of Theology office: srice@uwo.ca, 519-438-7224, ext. 289
- Bachelor's Academic Advising at Huron: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>
- Huron's Writing Skills Centre: http://www.huronuc.on.ca/student_life/writing_services
- UWO's Mental Health website: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to this website for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.
- UWO Student Support and Development Services: http://communications.uwo.ca/current_students/student_services.htm
- Services provided by Western University Student Council: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

5. Accommodation for absences:

If documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to your Faculty's Dean's office (or academic counselor), and not to the instructor. For the Faculty of Theology, all such documentation must be submitted to room A227. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

a) Non-medical absences:

Missed assignments due to a non-medical absence can be submitted on the following class day *only twice*.

Only one missed quiz will be accommodated in the case of non-documented absences.

Since dates are known well in advance, documentation and a request for relief must be submitted to the Dean's Office in order for accommodation for non-medical absences from examinations to be considered.

- b) **Medical absences:** See also the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness
—Undergraduate Students, at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>)

For work representing 10% or more of the overall grade for the course, Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide document. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

For the UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see <http://studentservices.uwo.ca> > Medical Documentation, and for Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness, see: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf Huron University College Academic Counselling website (www.huronuc.on.ca) or from the Dean's Office or Academic Services Centre at Huron.

For work representing less than 10% of the overall grade for the course:

In the above cases, involving documented medical absences, missed quizzes and assignments worth less than 10% will be accommodated by the professor.